GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4076
ANSWERED ON:10.04.2003
INTEGRATED RURAL ENERGY PROGRAMME IN BIHAR
RAJO SINGH

Will the Minister of NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES be pleased to state:

:

(a) the manner in which the integrated rural energy programme is being implemented in Bihar along with salient features of this programme;

(b) whether the Government have conducted any study in regard to the progress achieved towards implementation of this programme in the above State;

(c) if so, the details thereof ;

(d) whether the above programme has been delivering the desired results in the State;

(e) if so, the details thereof ; and

(f) if not, the reasons therefor?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES (SHRI M. KANNAPPAN)

(a): The Integrated Rural Energy Programme (IREP) being implemented in the States/ UTs including Bihar, aims at developing capabilities in the State for the preparation and implementation of block-level integrated rural energy plans and projects for meeting energy needs for subsistence and productive purposes through the optimum mix of energy sources, with focus on renewable energy. The implementation of the programme is carried out through two components, namely, the Central Sector component under which support is provided for development of capabilities, including provision of staff and their training, and the State Sector component under which financial support is provided from the State outlay for promoting various rural energy devices, extension and other related activities. The programme is being implemented in Bihar by the State NodalAgency - Bihar Renewable Energy Development Agency (BREDA), in eight blocks, namelyDhanarua (Patna), Vijaypur(Gopalganj), Bhavanipur (Purnea), Imamganj (Gaya), Ramnagar (W.Champaran), Chakai (Jamui), Manigachi (Darbhanga) and Ladaniya (Madhubani).

(b) & (c): The latest study on the progress of the IREP entitled `Analysis of IREPand Development of Capacity Building Strategy,` was taken up by the Government, with the support of United Nations Development Programme, in twelve States including Bihar,in the year 1999-2000. The study has brought out that as a result of IREP, minimum infrastructure for preparing rural energy plans and projects at the district and State levels have been set up. Further, IREP has enabled rural people and field development officials to appreciate different dimensions of the rural energy problem and how it should be tackled. IREP has also brought about large-scale awareness about new and renewable energy and need for conservation of energy in rural areas. The study has recommended that IREP should be consolidated and that the implementation of the programme needs to be strengthened, for which State Governments, including Government 0of Bihar, should provide increased flow of resources.

(d), (e) & (f): The programme in Bihar has not been delivering the desired results mainly because the State Government has not provided the required resources for the programme.